

NEW SOUTH WALES.

MONTHLY SUMMARY
OF
BUSINESS STATISTICS

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SECTION A.—RAINFALL AND PRODUCTION.

1. RAINFALL—INDEX.

Index showing Weighted Average Ratio of Actual to Normal Rainfall.

(Average rainfall for each month = 100.)

Month.	Sheep Districts.					Wheat Districts.				Dairying Districts. (Coastal only).			
	N.	C.	S.	W.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.
1943.													
January ...	135	124	171	108	141	157	115	144	138	64	104	68	75
February ...	36	56	49	90	52	44	60	56	55	81	24	34	60
March ...	13	13	22	5	15	10	12	21	17	44	53	24	44
April ...	144	111	157	89	133	156	127	156	148	54	39	38	48
May ...	82	192	128	49	124	112	176	94	118	153	283	384	216
June ...	63	49	48	36	51	66	55	50	53	25	19	34	25
July ...	53	58	87	71	67	58	63	96	83	4	12	5	6
August ...	105	96	120	82	105	88	103	106	103	112	224	231	156
September ...	110	118	120	115	116	111	125	123	122	124	144	120	128
October ...	98	79	100	64	90	93	74	85	83	156	104	189	147
November ...	175	197	163	115	170	149	204	162	171	215	220	158	209
December ...	89	51	30	4	50	76	52	14	32	212	125	106	176
1944.													
January ...	95	42	13	17	45	87	42	9	28	232	119	33	178

N.—Northern; C.—Central; S.—Southern; W.—Western; T.—Total, all districts.

2. WOOL.

The total production of wool in New South Wales was 546,273,000 lb. in 1939-40; 536,907,000 lb. in 1940-41; 547,000,000 lb. in 1941-42, and 497,538,000 lb.† in 1942-43.

The British Government has entered into a contract with the Commonwealth to purchase the wool clips of Australia for the duration of the war and one year thereafter. The agreed average price for seasons 1939-40 to 1941-42 was 10'75d. sterling or 13'4375d. Australian Currency, per lb. This price was increased to 12'3625d. sterling or 15'4531d. Australian Currency per lb., commencing with the 1942-43 clip.

Month.	Number of Bales Received into Store in Sydney.							
	During Month.				Total for Season to end of Month.			
	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
July ...	86,083	80,397	67,442	83,715	86,083	80,397	67,442	83,715
August ...	217,280	191,662	128,260	105,532	303,363	272,059	195,702	189,247
September ...	276,849	269,889	180,883	158,065	580,212	541,948	376,585	347,312
October ...	290,271	288,766	195,950	173,622	870,483	830,714	572,535	520,934
November ...	168,109	166,462	159,518	128,231	1,038,592	997,176	732,053	649,165
December ...	46,775	63,866	88,943	94,774	1,085,367	1,061,042	820,996	743,939
January ...	17,462	24,821	37,213	135,652	1,102,829	1,085,863	858,209	879,591
February ...	28,676	31,461	30,274	.....	1,131,505	1,117,324	888,483	.....
March ...	34,609	29,000	44,208	.....	1,166,114	1,146,324	932,691	.....
April ...	37,414	43,583	40,835	.....	1,203,528	1,189,907	973,526	.....
May ...	38,423	36,173	41,491	.....	1,241,951	1,226,080	1,015,017	.....
June ...	29,758	37,597	56,745	.....	1,271,709	1,263,677	1,071,762	.....

† Excludes 14 million lb. of 1943-44 wool shorn early under zoning system.

3. WHEAT.

Production in New South Wales. Compiled from returns of wheatgrowers.

Season.	Area under Wheat.		Yield of Grain.	
	Total.	Harvested For Grain.	Total.	Average per Acre.
Average 1932-33	acres.	acres.	bushels.	bushels.
to 1941-42	4,665,000	4,303,000	55,308,000	12.9
1939-40	4,681,000	4,381,000	76,552,000	17.5
1940-41	4,866,000	4,454,000	23,933,000	5.4
1941-42	4,342,000	3,969,000	48,500,000	12.2
1942-43	3,386,000	3,033,000	51,693,000	17.0

The final forecast by the Division of Marketing, Department of Agriculture, of the 1943-44 wheat yield is 42,500,000 bushels.

4. BUTTER.

The production of butter in factories in the six months ended December, 1943, was 5 per cent. less than in the corresponding period last season.

Since November, 1939, the British Government has purchased under contract the exportable surplus of Australian butter. The contract price for choicest was 137s. 2½d. per cwt. f.o.b. Australian ports to July, 1942, and 142s. 10d. since that date. The wholesale price for local consumption was fixed at 158s. 8d. per cwt. on 8th June, 1938, and increased to 166s. 10d. on 6th March, 1942.

Month.	Output of Butter—(New South Wales factories).				
	Average, 1935 to 1937.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.
Thousand lb.					
Year ended 30th June ...	121,085	112,020	103,683	85,116	93,775
Six months ended Dec....	50,012	44,080	39,127	47,267	44,783
January	15,054	12,629	14,453	6,664	13,044
March	13,972	9,562	11,743	10,116	8,648
June	5,233	5,058	5,183	5,467	3,679
August	5,088	5,042	4,638	5,346	3,279
September	6,879	6,453	5,850	5,952	4,933
October	9,775	7,988	7,505	7,499	8,626
November	11,549	8,185	7,935	11,275	11,553
December	12,146	11,365	8,608	12,032	13,079

5. MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

Tabulations embracing monthly returns from 42 large factories show the following results, which afford some indication of trends in the manufacturing industry:—

Month.	Factory Sales.				Employees.				Weekly Salaries and Wages.			
	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.
Thousand £.												
January ...	3,212	3,465	4,519	5,808	235	257	282	275	1,004	1,124	1,459	1,563
February ...	3,468	4,074	4,768	4,799	239	267	282	272	1,015	1,218	1,484	1,546
March ...	3,562	4,196	5,097	5,451	239	272	280	270	1,024	1,246	1,477	1,534
April ...	3,581	4,011	4,904	5,424	232	272	278	271	973	1,194	1,513	1,561
May ...	3,498	4,300	4,925	5,696	231	276	278	269	964	1,302	1,517	1,517
June ...	3,083	4,017	5,077	5,632	236	280	277	269	1,033	1,292	1,564	1,544
July ...	3,512	4,638	5,410	5,520	241	284	277	268	1,072	1,353	1,531	1,514
August ...	3,520	4,264	5,003	5,500*	243	283	277	266	1,069	1,380	1,532	1,533
September ...	3,634	4,746	5,352	5,710*	248	269	277	267	1,088	1,365	1,564	1,525
October ...	3,969	4,994	5,420	5,753*	252	285	280	266	1,114	1,428	1,576	1,536
November ...	3,911	4,729	5,826	5,701*	257	289	280	264	1,145	1,467	1,603	1,517
December ...	4,147	5,398	5,853	5,653	258	288	279	265	1,177	1,555	1,583	1,552
Average (January-December)	3,591	4,403	5,180	5,554	243	277	279	269	1,056	1,327	1,534	1,537

Further particulars of employment in factories are shown in Table 20.

* Revised.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

6. BUILDING INDUSTRY.

(a) SUMMARY OF PRIVATE BUILDING.

Value of permits to erect new buildings and additions (compiled from returns of Municipal and certain Shire Councils). Government buildings are excluded.

Year.	Month of January.				December Quarter.		
	Sydney and Suburbs.	City of Sydney.	Suburbs of Sydney.		Industrial and Rural Towns.	Total, New South Wales.*	
	Total New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings.		New Buildings.	New Buildings and Additions.	
			No. of Permits.	Value.	No. of Permits.	Value.	
	£	£		£		£	£
1941 ...	695,545	24,438	499	587,918	838	614,748	3,176,227
1942 ...	247,112	8,298	194	184,195	100	52,279	587,402
1943 ...	110,369	7,844	15	52,379	70	43,037	402,011
1944 ...	66,001	14,264	17	16,083	...	...	...

* Metropolis, 7 adjacent Shires and 129 rural and industrial towns; other areas not recorded.

(b) CLASSES OF PRIVATE BUILDING.

The following dissection of private building permits granted in Sydney and Suburbs and in 129 Industrial and Rural Towns in N.S.W. shows the total value for each of the principal classes of building :—

Period.	Value of New Buildings and Alterations and Additions.						
	Houses.		Flats. (a)	Factories.	Shops (b) and Public Garages.	Other (Offices, Hotels, Hospitals, etc.).	Total.
	Brick.	Wood, Fibro, etc.					
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Month of January—	Sydney and Suburbs.						
1942	112	51	17	48	3	16	247
1943	4	2	...	92	2	10	110
1944	3	5	...	45	...	13	66
Seven months ended 31st Jan.							
1942	2,989	602	874	747	53	238	5,503
1943	20	18	1	613	11	180	843
1944	20	30	8	521	5	176	760
December Quarter—	129 Industrial and Rural Towns.						
1942	4	34	1	39	3	34	115
1943	6	26	1	34	5	25	97
Year ended 31st December—							
1942	136	384	14	107	22	151	814
1943	20	116	3	109	21	125	394

Includes (a) conversions to flats ; (b) shops with dwellings attached.

(c) GOVERNMENT BUILDING.

In addition to totals for private building shown above, values of contracts accepted for the erection of buildings on behalf of Governments and semi-Governmental authorities in New South Wales were as follow :—

Area.	Value of New Buildings and Additions (Governmental).			
	Month of January.		Seven months ended 31st January	
	1943.	1944.	1943.	1944.
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Sydney and Suburbs ...	596*	171	1,461*	1,297
Remainder of State ...	134	48	1,458	463
Total, New South Wales ...	730*	219	2,919*	1,760

NOTE— Temporary structures for protection against Air Raids and alterations for this purpose are, in general, excluded.
* Revised.

SECTION B.—TRADE.

7. WHOLESALE TRADE.

Approximate Amount of Sales (N.S.W.) by Traders Registered under Sales Tax Acts.
Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.

Period.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.
Million £.							
Year ended 31st December ...	191·83	192·97	200·29	202·79	229·03	238·65	240·54
January ...	13·74	14·21	13·24	16·33	15·83	18·69	17·18
February ...	14·64	15·73	16·54	14·64	17·48	19·39	21·60
March ...	15·43	15·79	15·78	16·97	17·40	19·53	19·44
April ...	16·45	16·83	15·79	17·88	19·06	19·19	21·88
May ...	16·50	16·87	17·46	14·85	18·75	20·72	19·56
June ...	14·98	14·98	14·88	17·07	21·76	18·93	20·91
July ...	16·55	16·23	15·28	16·74	17·63	19·17	19·81
August ...	16·27	15·29	16·81	17·17	20·41	20·86	18·75
September ...	16·28	17·45	19·44	17·48	21·60	19·59	19·93
October ...	16·47	15·66	19·22	18·50	18·25	22·06	20·80
November ...	17·35	16·93	17·53	18·13	20·58	19·54	21·07
December ...	17·17	17·00	18·32	17·03	20·28	20·98	19·61

8. RETAIL TRADE.

Returns collected by the Retail Traders' Association Research Bureau in conjunction with the Commonwealth Bank from the principal Sydney stores indicate the following increases or decreases per cent. for periods shown below compared with corresponding periods of previous year:—

Period.	Number of Business Days in Period.		Net Sales (Value).	Value of Stock.	Wages and Salaries Paid.	Number of Employees.	Three Monthly Moving Average ended month shown.	
	Previous Year.	Current Year.					Net Sales (Value).	Wages and Salaries Paid.
Year ended December—								
1938 ...	303	303	+ 4·8	+ 5·2	+ 11·6	+ 5·0		
1939 ...	303	303	+ 2·4	+ 2·0	+ 2·6	+ 0·9		
1940 ...	303	305	+ 6·3	+ 17·0	+ 4·0	+ 1·9		
1941 ...	305	304	+ 14·6	+ 8·0	+ 9·0	+ 4·0		
1942 ...	304	304	- 5·3	+ 9·2	- 5·1	- 8·4		
1943 ...	303	306	- 11·3	- 6·8	- 9·7	- 17·6		
Percentage increase + or decrease —								
1942. December ...	25	24	- 23·1	+ 1·5	- 18·7	- 24·5	- 19·3	- 15·5
1943. January ...	25	25	- 15·3	+ 6·0	- 14·7	- 19·8	- 18·9	- 16·1
February ...	24	24	- 27·5	+ 2·2	- 17·9	- 23·0	- 22·2	- 17·2
March ...	26	27	- 14·1	- 2·4	- 9·4	- 19·5	- 18·8	- 13·9
April ...	23	23	- 16·0	- 2·3	- 16·0	- 20·0	- 18·7	- 14·4
May ...	26	26	+ 0·8	- 11·1	- 11·1	- 19·7	- 9·8	- 12·2
June ...	25	26	- 1·3	- 10·2	- 7·6	- 15·7	- 6·0	- 11·7
July ...	27	27	- 25·5	- 7·7	- 8·3	- 14·7	- 8·2	- 9·0
August ...	26	26	- 20·7	- 11·4	- 7·0	- 15·0	- 16·2	- 7·6
September ...	26	26	- 11·5	- 10·0	- 6·8	- 14·6	- 19·3	- 7·3
October ...	26	25	- 9·9	- 9·1	- 7·5	- 13·2	- 14·3	- 7·1
November ...	25	26	- 1·7	- 10·1	- 3·8	- 12·2	- 7·7	- 6·0
December ...	24	25	+ 5·4	- 12·8	- 5·3	- 11·4	- 1·6	- 5·5

Further particulars of monthly employment in retail trade are shown in Table 20.

SECTION C.—TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC.

9. RAILWAYS.

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS REVENUE AND BUSINESS.

The financial results of operations were:—

	Month of December.			Six months ended 31st December.		
	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1941 ...	2,416,624	1,545,046	871,578	13,132,577	8,815,511	4,317,066
1942 ...	2,850,707	†3,093,449	(-) 242,742	17,277,827	12,595,753	4,682,074
1943 ...	2,845,237	†2,965,183	(-) 119,946	17,721,712	13,274,875	4,446,837

* Excluding capital charges, viz. interest, exchange, sinking fund, etc., which amounted to £6,734,000 in 1942-43.

† Including amounts not applicable to a particular month.

	Month of December.		Six months ended 31st December.	
	Tonnage of Goods and Livestock.	Passenger Journeys.	Tonnage of Goods and Livestock.	Passenger Journeys.
	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.
1941 ...	1,637	19,127	9,248	107,504
1942 ...	1,587*	19,933	10,038*	116,157
1943 ...	1,552*	20,531	10,073*	123,127

* Partly estimated.

10. TRAMWAYS AND OMNIBUSES.

SERVICES OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ROAD TRANSPORT, NEW SOUTH WALES

PERIOD.	SYDNEY AND SUBURBS.			NEWCASTLE AND SUBURBS.		
	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.†	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.
	£	£	thousands.	£	£	thousands.
Month of December—						
1941 ...	446,006	56,470	39,890	38,278	6,754	2,911
1942 ...	438,326	68,358	39,401	40,848	6,558	3,508
1943 ...	448,600	49,700	40,839	46,300	7,300	3,714
Six months ended 31st December—						
1941 ...	2,487,449	397,080	223,023	205,872	44,447	15,742
1942 ...	2,518,413	296,920	224,852	243,774	43,841	19,447
1943 ...	2,568,720	211,110	234,616	258,620	33,700	20,725

* Exclusive of Sinking Fund, Interest on Loan Capital, Exchange and Current Depreciation which amounted to £569,000 in 1942-43.

† Exclusive of Sydney Harbour Bridge passengers whose journey did not extend beyond the Bridge Section.

11. MOTOR VEHICLES.

NUMBER OF REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES (N.S.W.) AS AT VARIOUS DATES.

(Exclusive of Vehicles of Defence Services.)

Class.	1939. 31st August.	1942.		1943.				1944
		31st January.	30th June.	31st January.	30th June.	30th September.	31st December.	31st January.
Cars	216,633	183,542	169,916	172,408	173,188	174,186	177,245	177,771
Lorries and Vans ...	77,639	74,707	71,248	71,364	72,159	73,245	75,068	75,473
Trailers	6,538	7,338	6,965	6,809	6,873	7,050	7,409	7,504
Tractors†	1,102	1,351	1,366	1,391	1,382	1,409	1,429	1,439
Cycles—Solo	17,111	12,413	10,538	10,104	9,641	9,728	9,842	9,870
Cycles—Side-car ...	6,884	5,404	4,735	4,706	4,523	4,399	4,518	4,540
Omnibuses	794	886	800	904	913	905	913	916
Taxi-cabs	1,331	1,356	1,352	1,350	1,349	1,348	1,348	1,347
Traders' Plates ...	1,187	712	708	587	610	623	634	607
Total	329,219	287,709	267,768	269,623	270,638	272,893	278,406	279,467

† Excluding tractors used on farms only.

Average Weekly Number of New Vehicles Registered.*

Year.	Cars (Including Cabs and Omnibuses).						Lorries and Vans.					
	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
1939-40	322	270	314	368	344	246	146	126	145	169	127	87
1940-41	88	118	128	173	163	141	53	63	64	77	69	53
1941-42	21	32	44	43	38	23	45	41	43	52	61	32
1942-43	19	16	21	18	12	7	9	7	4	5	2	6
1943-44	3	4	6	4	5	3	55	60	64	86	94	66

* Excluding trailers.

12. WIRELESS LICENSES.

BROADCAST LISTENERS' LICENSES IN FORCE IN N.S.W.

(Excluding Experimental Licenses.)

End of Month.	1939-40.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
March	427,964	447,310	491,816	502,810	536,795
June	433,029	458,155	494,884	500,451	552,289
September	432,795	479,485	500,125	509,332	554,227
October	435,573	483,148	499,804	515,228	555,450
November	440,335	482,837	499,614	519,375	557,140
December	441,934	483,875	501,253	523,920	558,381
January	444,522	485,854	503,346	527,733	556,775

SECTION D.—FINANCIAL.

13. SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS (NEW SOUTH WALES).‡

As at June 30th.	Amount of Deposits. †	End of Month.	Amount of Deposits.		
			1942.	1943.	1944.
	£		£	£	£
1932	71,647,869	January ...	92,972,902	109,220,389	146,283,258
1933	72,307,685	February ...	90,647,010	112,817,955	.....
1934	75,714,070	March ...	89,458,641	115,641,889	.....
1935	77,906,402	April ...	91,110,603	115,500,011	.....
1936	79,999,948	May ...	92,925,282	118,016,266	.....
1937	81,952,399	June† ...	94,537,937	122,405,481	.....
1938	86,015,685	July ...	97,330,938	126,688,719	.....
1939	87,473,789	August ...	99,727,345	130,518,639	.....
1940	82,110,900	September ...	101,385,379	134,162,891	.....
1941	87,750,208	October ...	103,583,441	136,326,132	.....
1942	94,537,937	November ...	104,929,899	138,328,054	.....
1943	122,405,481	December ...	105,744,876	142,108,496	.....

† Including accrued interest.

‡ Amount at credit of depositors' accounts.

WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES: The net amount received from sales of certificates less re-purchases in New South Wales totalled £14,569,713 as at 31st January, 1944, including £183,867 net receipts in January.

14. TRADING BANKS*—DEPOSITS, ETC., IN AUSTRALIA.

December Quarter.	Deposits.	Cash in Aust.†	Treasury Bills.	Govt. and Municipal Securities.	Special Wartime Deposits with Comw'th Bank.	Advances.
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1940 ...	359,208	42,863	41,405	49,657	...	281,475
1941 ...	379,272	44,807	46,012	62,313	2,625	277,977
1942 ...	419,427	50,626	58,300	60,103	54,570	249,631
1943 ...	487,979	40,011	61,404	79,037	124,547	235,507

* Nine Private Banks.

† Exclusive of London Funds.

15. PRIVATE BUSINESS IN PRIVATE BANKS (N.S.W.).

(Excluding Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and excluding Government deposits and Government Securities in Private Trading Banks.)

December Quarter.	Deposits.			Advances.	Excess of Deposits over Advances.
	Not Bearing Interest (Current).	Bearing Interest (Fixed).	Total.		
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1940 ...	67,682	65,957	133,639	115,434	18,205
1941 ...	76,432	65,856	142,288	113,565	28,723
1942 ...	91,676	61,909	153,585	102,043	51,542
1943 ...	111,460	69,116	180,576	91,120	89,456

16. INTER-BANK CLEARINGS (SYDNEY).

(Value of cheques drawn on a Bank other than the Bank in which they were Deposited.)

Month.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
	Amount—Million £							Index Numbers.						
January ...	67.5	66.5	82.7	90.3	92.0	106.7	107.5	97	98	110	117	123	136	150
February ...	75.6	75.5	88.9	82.0	97.1	105.7	...	96	96	110	114	123	139	...
March ...	82.6	80.5	87.8	89.4	102.6	123.4	...	95	93	107	110	119	138	...
April ...	75.7	70.7	84.3	86.9	95.4	125.3	...	102	98	111	111	125	150	...
May ...	82.0	82.0	90.2	106.3	98.9	123.0	...	103	100	111	117	125	155	...
June ...	86.8	80.3	94.5	97.4	116.6	132.6	...	106	101	115	123	133	163	...
July ...	70.5	71.2	94.6	98.9	99.7	114.3	...	101	98	116	125	130	155	...
August ...	72.9	74.9	83.6	87.0	99.0	122.7	...	101	99	118	123	135	160	...
September ...	77.6	74.9	84.5	94.9	105.6	116.5	...	99	99	117	124	134	155	...
October ...	79.5	78.0	90.1	101.8	115.0	115.5	...	101	100	113	123	138	152	...
November ...	82.7	86.1	93.5	99.6	105.0	129.3	...	102	102	114	124	135	149	...
December ...	88.1	91.7	100.1	104.9	121.6	127.3	...	102	106	115	124	136	150	...
Year ...	942.4	932.3	1074.8	1139.4	1248.5	1442.3	...	101	100	113	120	131	151	...

The index may be regarded as an approximate measure of changes in the volume of business transactions settled by cheques provided it is considered in conjunction with changes in price levels. It represents the ratio of each month's clearings to the average for the month concerned during the five years 1926-1930. This average is represented by 100 each month. Seasonal fluctuations have thus been eliminated. Casual fluctuations in monthly index numbers have been smoothed out by taking a three months' moving average, that is, the index shown above for each month is the average of the actual index of that month and the preceding two months. It may be compared vertically or horizontally.

The index is adjusted to eliminate the effects of Treasury Bill and other special transactions on behalf of Governments and the effects of bank amalgamations. No adjustment has been made for normal growth or change of price levels. The amounts of clearings shown are the recorded totals less Treasury Bill transactions only.

17. INTEREST RATES PER CENT. (N.S.W.).

Period.	Private First Mortgages Registered. Weighted Average Rate of Interest.*		Yield on Commonwealth Government Securities†—subject to Commonwealth Income Tax—				
			Not exceeding Rates in force in 1930.			At Current Rates.	
	Urban Securities.	Rural Securities.	Short- dated.	Medium- dated.	Long- dated.	Short- dated, 2 years.	Long- dated, 12 years.
Average for year—			Under 5 years.	5 to 10 years.	10 years and over.		
1937	5'3	5'0	3'44	3'75	3'84	...	...
1938	5'4	5'0	3'38	3'71	3'73	...	...
1939	5'6	5'2	3'84	3'87	3'92	...	...
1940	5'6	5'1	3'14	3'25	3'30	...	...
1941	5'5	4'9	2'45	2'95	3'10	...	...
1941	5'5	4'9	2 years.	7 years.	12 years.	2'47	3'23
1942	5'4	4'9	2'42	2'87	3'13	2'45	3'24
1943	5'0	4'7	2'39	2'89	3'11	2'48	3'23
Months—			2'43	2'72	2'96		
1943—March ...	5'1	4'8	2'39	2'70	2'93	2'47	3'23
June	5'1	4'8	2'37	2'75	2'95	2'48	3'24
September ...	5'0	4'5	2'38	2'69	2'94	2'47	3'23
October	5'0	4'6	2'39	2'73	2'97	2'48	3'23
November ...	5'0	4'6	2'36	2'77	3'08	2'48	3'24
December ...	5'0	4'5	2'36	2'77	3'02	2'48	3'24
1944—January ...	5'0	4'5	2'36	2'75	3'04	2'47	3'24

* Average of three months ended month shown.

† Compiled by Commonwealth Bank as at last Wednesday in month.

18. REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS (N.S.W.).

(Registered under Real Property Act and Registration of Deeds Act.)

Month.	Consideration of Sales.					Amount of Mortgages.*				
	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
	Thousand £.									
January	1,884	2,383	2,815	1,226	1,090	1,480	1,148	916	595	383
February	2,524	2,557	2,472	1,294	...	1,428	1,329	975	390	...
March	2,464	2,677	2,083	1,550	...	1,686	1,320	996	503	...
April	2,392	2,574	2,276	1,517	...	1,560	1,305	891	536	...
May	2,908	2,835	1,154	1,185	...	1,449	1,324	526	381	...
June	2,464	3,029	1,266	1,358	...	1,305	1,273	599	400	...
July	3,217	3,165	1,540	1,783	...	1,748	1,470	622	399	...
August	2,259	2,545	1,671	1,379	...	1,099	1,213	451	450	...
September ...	3,149	2,941	1,616	1,551	...	1,240	1,571	516	432	...
October	2,885	3,013	1,514	1,549	...	1,144	1,413	423	618	...
November ...	2,430	2,548	1,942	1,558	...	1,259	1,022	530	558	...
December ...	2,477	2,972	1,260	1,592	...	1,099	1,242	562	494	...
Year	31,053	33,239	21,609	17,542	...	16,497	15,630	8,007	5,756	...

* Including new mortgages and renewals as registered.

NOTE.—The amounts shown relate substantially to mortgages of fixed amounts for fixed periods, and exclude fluctuating advances (such as overdrafts) secured by mortgage. Mortgages providing collateral security are included.

19. LIENS ON CROPS AND WOOL AND MORTGAGES ON LIVESTOCK.

(Registered under Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages Act.)

	Month of January.			Year ended 31st December.		
	Crops.	Wool.*	Livestock.*	Crops.	Wool.*	Livestock.*
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1941	277,907	274,624	69,423	2,029,057	2,597,614	1,160,273
1942	112,841	242,695	84,121	1,722,350	2,283,934	724,219
1943	94,388	152,361	111,390	1,416,767	1,734,753	774,467
1944	46,781	79,029	48,838	.....	.....	.....

See note under Table 18. * Loans secured by both lien on wool and mortgage on sheep are included under both headings.

SECTION E.—GENERAL.

20. EMPLOYMENT IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

The table shown below has been compiled from returns made by employers for purposes of Commonwealth Pay-roll Tax, which came into operation in July, 1941, and comparative figures for June, 1933, and July, 1939, have been inserted where possible.

Month.	Estimated Total Employment. (a) (Excluding Rural and Household Domestic.)			Total Employees in Factories. (b)	Pay-roll Tax Returns—Employees recorded on last pay-roll of month by—				
	Govern- ment (Common- wealth, State, Local and Allied).	Private Employers.	Total.		Employers whose principal activity was—				
					Mining and Quarrying. (c)	Building and Construc- tion. (c)	Trans- port. (c)	Retail Trade. (c)	Other Com- merce and Finance. (c)
MALES. (Thousands.)									
1933—June	103.2	275.7	378.9	94.5	...	...	...	...	...
1939—July	136.5	399.1	535.6	158.8	...	...	...	...	...
1941—July	141.5	419.5	561.0	202.1	21.7	20.5	77.7	31.9	50.5
Nov.	144.3	425.1	569.4	210.5	21.7	19.3	81.4	32.1	51.6
1942—July	158.6	384.3	542.9	211.4	21.2	17.2	85.1	24.9	42.6
Dec.	154.5	379.4	533.9	212.4	20.7	15.4	84.7	24.6	41.3
1943—Jan.	155.6	379.4	535.0	214.5	20.8	15.9	84.8	23.3	41.2
Feb.	156.7	379.5	536.2	214.3	20.5	17.1	85.0	23.0	41.3
Mar.	156.2	378.0	534.2	215.5	20.5	17.0	84.7	22.6	40.1
Apr.	156.6	374.9	531.5	215.4	19.7	16.7	84.9	22.5	39.1
May	156.5	375.5	532.0	216.2	20.8	16.7	84.7	22.3	38.8
June	155.8	375.7	531.5	216.3	21.0	16.6	84.9	22.3	38.7
July	156.6	372.0	528.6	214.8	20.9	15.9	85.0	22.2	38.4
Aug.	155.9	372.9	528.8	214.9	20.9	16.4	85.0	22.0	38.9
Sept.	155.0	372.3	527.3	215.2	20.9	15.7	84.9	21.9	38.6
Oct.	154.9	372.3	527.2	215.3	20.9	15.3	85.0	21.8	38.6
Nov.	153.9	373.5	527.4	215.4	20.8	14.9	85.1	21.8	39.0
Dec.	152.6	375.6	528.2	214.7	20.5	14.1	84.8	23.0	38.7
FEMALES. (Thousands.)									
1933—June	16.8	101.8	118.6	36.3	...	...	...	...	...
1939—July	19.4	141.3	160.7	59.3	...	...	...	...	...
1941—July	21.7	186.8	208.5	76.0	0.2	0.5	3.2	31.8	19.8
Nov.	23.0	194.8	217.8	80.7	0.2	0.5	3.6	33.8	21.6
1942—July	29.3	197.0	226.3	83.8	0.2	0.5	4.1	32.1	22.8
Dec.	35.1	201.2	236.3	89.0	0.2	0.5	4.9	32.9	23.1
1943—Jan.	36.4	199.8	236.2	89.0	0.2	0.5	5.2	31.5	23.3
Feb.	37.2	200.5	237.7	90.4	0.2	0.5	5.4	30.9	23.5
Mar.	38.7	201.2	239.9	92.1	0.2	0.5	5.5	30.8	23.0
Apr.	39.8	200.8	240.6	92.4	0.2	0.5	5.6	30.5	23.2
May	41.0	200.2	241.2	93.1	0.2	0.5	5.7	30.2	22.9
June	42.9	200.5	243.4	93.8	0.2	0.5	5.8	30.3	22.8
July	45.8	199.7	245.5	93.8	0.2	0.5	5.8	29.8	22.6
Aug.	46.5	200.4	246.9	94.5	0.2	0.5	5.9	29.5	22.9
Sept.	46.7	201.9	248.6	95.6	0.2	0.5	6.0	29.3	22.9
Oct.	46.8	203.1	249.9	95.7	0.2	0.5	6.1	29.4	23.0
Nov.	47.0	203.5	250.5	95.4	0.2	0.5	6.2	29.6	22.9
Dec.	46.4	205.3	251.7	94.7	0.2	0.5	6.3	31.2	22.9
TOTAL. (Thousands.)									
1933—June	120.0	377.5	497.5	130.8	...	...	...	...	...
1939—July	155.9	540.4	696.3	218.1	...	...	...	...	...
1941—July	163.2	606.3	769.5	278.1	21.0	21.0	80.9	63.7	70.3
Nov.	167.3	619.9	787.2	291.2	21.0	19.3	85.0	65.9	73.2
1942—July	187.9	581.3	769.2	295.2	21.4	17.7	89.2	57.0	65.4
Dec.	189.6	580.6	770.2	301.4	20.0	15.9	89.6	57.5	64.4
1943—Jan.	192.0	579.2	771.2	303.5	21.0	16.4	90.0	54.8	64.5
Feb.	193.9	580.0	773.9	304.7	20.7	17.6	90.4	53.9	64.8
Mar.	194.9	579.2	774.1	307.6	20.7	17.5	90.2	53.4	63.1
Apr.	196.4	575.7	772.1	307.8	19.9	17.2	90.5	53.0	62.3
May	197.5	575.7	773.2	309.3	21.0	17.2	90.4	52.5	61.7
June	198.7	576.2	774.9	310.1	21.2	17.1	90.7	52.6	61.5
July	202.4	571.7	774.1	308.6	21.1	16.4	90.8	52.0	61.0
Aug.	202.4	573.3	775.7	309.4	21.1	16.9	90.9	51.5	61.8
Sept.	201.7	574.2	775.9	310.8	21.1	16.2	90.9	51.2	61.5
Oct.	201.7	575.4	777.1	311.0	21.1	15.8	91.1	51.2	61.6
Nov.	200.9	577.0	777.9	310.8	21.0	15.4	91.3	51.4	61.9
Dec.	199.0	580.9	779.9	309.4	20.7	14.6	91.1	54.2	61.6

(a) Estimated number of wage and salary earners in employment defined as "persons occupied as wage and salary earners" as distinct from "equivalent of full time employment." Employees absent in the defence forces, at home or abroad, and Government relief workers are excluded.

(b) Exclusive of Working Proprietors. Numbers stated for July, 1942, and later months are subject to revision.

(c) The numbers in columns marked (c) are the total employees on the last pay-roll of each month shown on returns of employers who pay more than £20 per week in wages. Commonwealth Government employees are not included. Employees of State, semi-Government, and Local Government authorities are included in the appropriate industry column when separate returns are supplied, e.g., Railway Commissioner. These group totals are useful as indicating trend, but do not indicate the actual number of employees in the industries named.

21. CONSUMPTION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY.

Index of Monthly Sales of Gas and Electricity (Sydney).

(Based on number of units each equal to 3,412 British Thermal Units.)

Month.	Average, 1929 to 1931.	1929.	1932.	1934.	1936.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
January ...	100	103	93	100	110	119	125	136	141	141	164	155
February ...	100	105	95	100	112	122	125	135	142	145	159	...
March ...	100	102	95	99	111	121	130	130	143	146	164	...
April ...	100	104	96	101	110	119	125	137	141	147	164	...
May ...	100	106	95	100	110	122	128	128	146	144	166	...
June ...	100	103	99	103	114	127	131	135	150	154	174	...
July ...	100	105	97	100	112	126	134	139	149	158	171	...
August ...	100	106	97	103	107	128	135	137	151	157	181	...
September ...	100	108	97	101	113	123	134	134	151	158	171	...
October ...	100	109	96	104	113	121	135	137	154	163	162	...
November ...	100	109	97	104	116	124	135	139	152	161	164	...
December ...	100	105	99	106	116	124	131	138	153	165	163	...
Year ...	100	105	96	102	112	123	131	135	148	154	167	...

The base for each month is the average sales in the corresponding month of the three years, 1929 to 1931.

22. RETAIL PRICE INDEX NUMBERS—SYDNEY—WAR PERIOD.

(Base: Weighted Average for 6 Capital Cities in 1923-27 = 1,000)

Quarter.	Food and Groceries.	Rent— 4 and 5 rooms.	Clothing.	Miscellaneous Items.	Total Household Expenditure.	
					Index Number.	Increase from Sept. Quarter, 1939.
1939—September ...	930	1,039	841	939	933	Per cent. ...
1940—September ...	945	1,042	948	996	973	4'3
1941—September ...	947	1,043	1,129	1,062	1,027	10'1
1942—March ...	1,005	1,045	1,211	1,085	1,070	14'7
June ...	1,034	1,043	1,279	1,089	1,096	17'5
September ...	1,061	1,042	1,337	1,105	1,122	20'3
December ...	1,060	1,042	1,382	1,140	1,138	22'0
1943—March ...	1,050	1,042	1,408	1,145	1,141	22'3
June ...	1,065	1,042	1,479	1,162	1,165	24'9
September ...	1,039	1,042	1,463	1,176	1,154	23'7
December ...	1,015	1,042	1,449	1,179	1,143	22'5

23. BASIC WAGE—INDUSTRIAL AWARDS.

Amount per week—Adult Males.

YEAR.	Sydney, Newcastle, Wollongong— Port Kembla.*				Crown Employees. (All Districts).			
	Quarterly adjustment commencing—							
	February.	May.	August.	November.	February.	May.	August.	November.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1939 ...	81 0	82 0	81 0	82 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0
1940 ...	82 0	83 0	85 0	85 0	81 0	81 0	83 0	84 0
1941 ...	88 0	88 0	89 0	89 0	86 0	87 0	87 0	88 0
1942 ...	91 0	93 0	95 0	97 0	90 0	92 0	94 0	96 0
1943 ...	98 0	98 0	100 0	99 0	97 0	97 0	99 0	98 0
1944 ...	99 0	...	...	...	97 0	...	...	...

* In all other districts, except Broken Hill, the rates were 3s. less.

In 1939 quarterly variations commenced in March, June, September and December.

24. WHOLESALE PRICE LEVELS OVERSEA.

	Year 1939.	Year 1940.	Year 1941.	Year 1942.	1943.					
	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.			
Great Britain—Board of Trade (1930 = 100)	102.8	136.6	152.6	159.4	163.3	163.1	164.0	162.2	162.9	162.5
United States—Irrving Fisher (1926 = 100)...	80.9	83.6	93.5	106.4	112.0	111.7	110.8	110.5	110.8	111.2

25. PRICES OF METALS.

Average Monthly Prices of Metals (Export Parity f.o.b. Australia) in Australian Currency.

Period.				Silver (Standard). per oz.	Lead. per ton.	Zinc (Electrolytic). per ton.	Tin (Standard). per ton.	Gold (Fine). per oz.
				s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1929 ... ..	...	...	...	2 0.57	21 14 5	25 19 5	200 11 5	4 4 11
1938 ... ..	...	...	...	2 0.14	17 12 11	19 12 10	228 11 10	8 17 2
1939 ... ..	...	...	...	2 1.42	17 12 1	19 15 3	268 3 6	9 14 4
1940 ... ..	...	...	...	2 2.95	18 14 6	22 9 11	292 19 8	10 13 1
1941 ... ..	...	...	...	2 4.26	19 11 4	22 12 11	295 1 6	10 13 8
1942 ... ..	...	...	...	2 4.66	21 9 9	22 2 11	285 9 1	10 9 1
1943 ... ..	...	...	...	2 4.63	22 19 2	23 15 2	283 1 6	10 9 0
1943—August ...	...	...	...	2 4.63	22 1 8	32 19 11	283 1 6	10 9 0
September ...	...	...	...	2 4.63	24 3 6	22 0 6	283 1 6	10 9 0
October ...	...	...	...	2 4.63	26 11 3	22 0 6	283 1 6	10 9 0
November ...	...	...	...	2 4.63	24 19 8	31 16 7	283 1 6	10 9 0
December ...	...	...	...	2 4.63	24 16 6	22 0 6	283 1 6	10 9 0

26. STOCK EXCHANGE INDEX (SYDNEY).

The following index of the values of the principal Company shares on Sydney Stock Exchange embraces the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales.

The prices of individual shares are unweighted, and each group average is the mean of the average monthly prices per £ of paid-up capital. The aggregate index is the average for the whole of the shares included in the groups with the addition of 24 miscellaneous shares. There is no base period as the index represents the ratio per cent. of the average prices of ordinary shares to their par values, adjustment being made where capital is written off or bonus shares are issued.

Month.	23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	8 Public Utility Companies.	5 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	5 Insurance Companies.	Total* Companies 75.	34 Active Shares included in foregoing.
April, 1929 \$	179.3	183.8	129.4	174.1	243.5	174.4	172.6
Sept., 1931 \$	72.3	60.2	87.9	75.2	121.3	74.4	77.2
Mar., 1937 \$	213.8	203.8	181.0	169.2	281.2	190.4	200.5
1943—Jan. ...	229.4	173.7	134.6	132.1	250.4	174.7	192.8
March ...	233.8	180.3	138.1	133.2	251.1	178.4	195.6
June ...	234.7	177.8	141.3	132.8	254.1	179.7	196.2
July ...	235.4	181.4	143.2	133.0	254.1	181.0	197.6
August ...	235.7	189.2	145.2	133.1	254.1	182.7	198.9
Sept. ...	236.1	191.8	145.4	134.0	254.1	183.7	199.9
Oct. ...	236.5	192.8	146.6	134.3	254.1	184.3	200.3
Nov. ...	236.7	193.9	147.8	135.3	254.1	184.9	200.5
Dec. ...	236.9	193.8	148.2	135.0	254.1	185.2	200.4
1944—Jan. ...	237.1	193.8	148.3	135.0	254.1	185.4	200.4

* Including 24 Miscellaneous Companies. \$ The highest point of the index, prior to the slump, was reached in April, 1929, the lowest in September, 1931, and the highest point in March, 1937.

The population of N.S.W. at 30th June, 1943, was 2,858,273 or 39.5 per cent. of the total population of Australia (Sydney and Suburbs, 31st December, 1941, 1,337,950).

NOTICE.

This summary is issued as soon as practicable after the end of each month. The subscription for twelve months is 3s. (posted) payable to the Government Printer, Phillip-street, Sydney, or 3d. per single copy at the Government Printing Office. This charge applies in all cases, except exchanges and Government Departments.

The figures for the most recent months are, in general, subject to revision.

Bureau of Statistics and Economics, 61 Hunter-street, Sydney.

29th February, 1944.

Sydney: Alfred Henry Pettifer, Acting Government Printer—1944.